

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3, 6, 7, 10-13 and 17-23 remain in this application. Of these, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitation(s) of original claim 5 (which the Examiner indicated was allowable). Claim 7 has been amended to incorporate the limitation(s) of original claim 9 (which the Examiner indicated was allowable). Claim 13 has been amended to incorporate the limitation(s) of claim 15 (which the Examiner indicated was allowable). As a result, all of Applicants' independent claims should now be allowable, and all of the claims depending therefrom should be allowable.

Applicants' claims 10 and 11 have been amended for the sake of consistency with Applicants' amended claim 7. The last two lines of Applicants' claim 13 have been amended, and support for this amendment is found, at least, in original claim 1.

Support for new claims 17, 19 and 23 is found, at least, in paragraph [0022] and following paragraphs.

Support for new claims 18 and 20-22 is found, at least, in original claims 2, 3 and 6.

None of the above amendments are believed to add new matter.

Given the Examiner's indication that the above amendments to claims 1, 7 and 13 would place this case in condition for allowance, the Examiner's rejections are deemed to be moot, and Applicants respectfully request the timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
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